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Alabama Economic Outlook: Primary Metals
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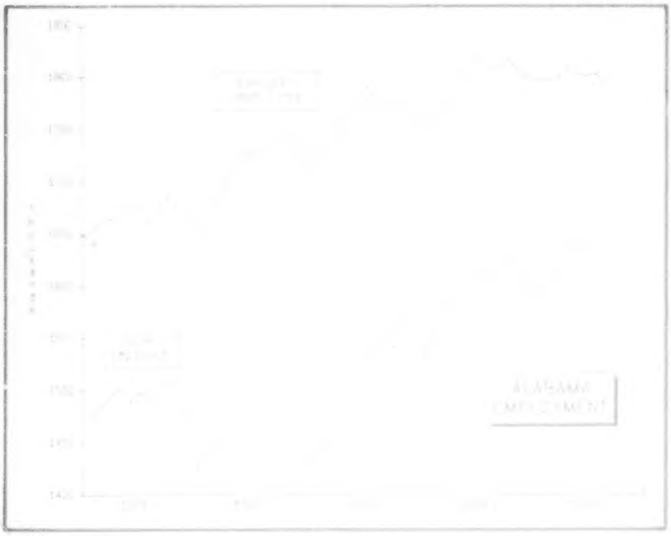
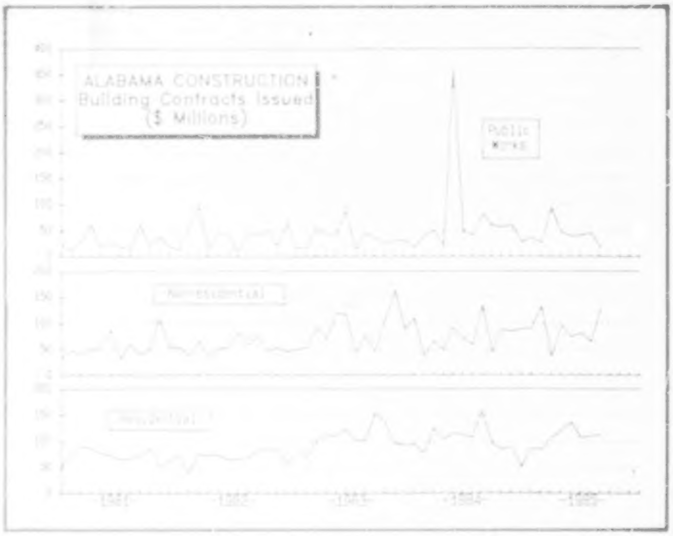
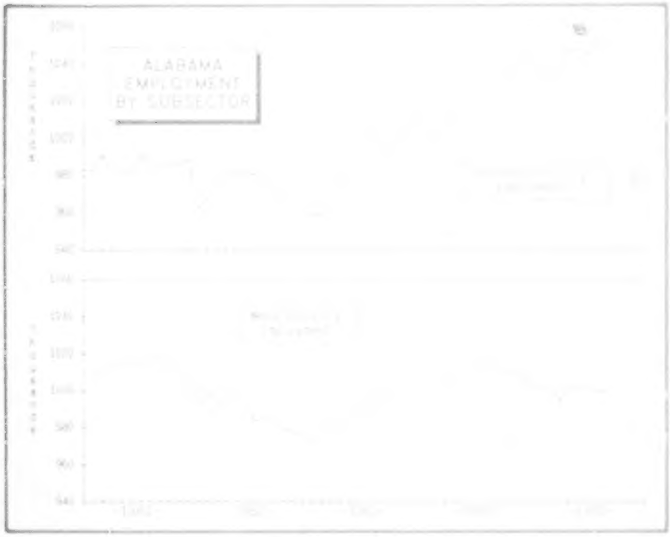
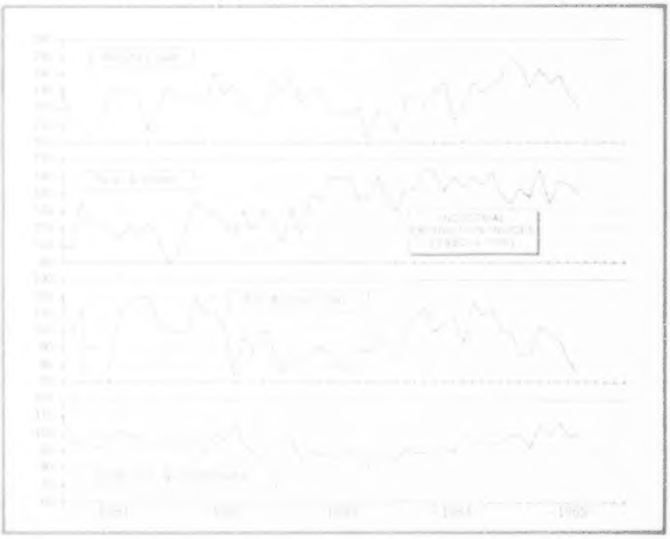
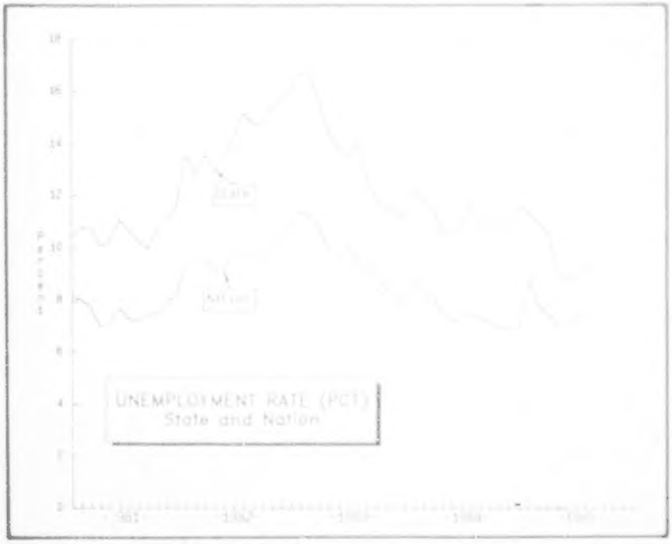
Alabama Business at a Glance

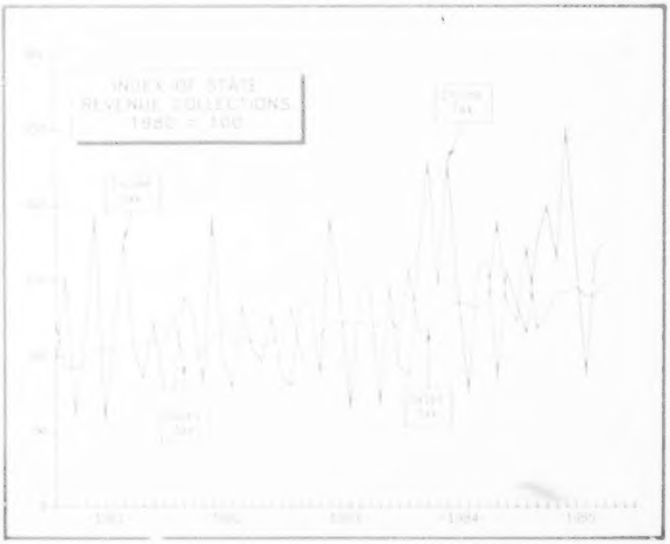












GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1984						1985						
	1983	1984	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT—CONT				—											
Other employment activity															
State Employment Service (number)															
Job applications	207 309	212 083	20 564	20 649	16 081	21 966	18 684	10 391	21 285	16 261	18 276	17 001	19 426	21 132	24 409
Nonagricultural placements	91 100¹	97 761	14 871	14 203	7 119	7 844	6 543	4 876	5 229	4 821	6 204	6 961	7 951	6 768	15 232
Unemployment compensation															
Initial benefit claims (number)	428 181	435 832	50 560	37 376	29 346	36 116	25 891	41 032	74 659	34 636	32 416	29 881	29 414	23 979	46 997
Payments ($1,000)	191 868	172 593	13 536	15 564	12 258	13 116	14 250	16 158	21 274	16 920	15 977	13 782	14 095	11 620	15 246
County data (civilian labor force and unemployment rate)															
Autauga	15 590	15 670	15 620	15 640	15 780	15 800	16 070	15 920	15 910	15 880	15 910	16 000	16 150	15 880	15 900
	14.2	9.6	8.8	8.4	9.3	8.6	10.9	10.5	10.1	9.5	9.1	8.5	9.0	8.0	8.2
Baldwin	34 220	35 530	35 830	35 400	37 450	35 440	35 630	37 380	35 550	35 930	37 120	36 270	35 540	35 770	35 870
	12.1	10.9	10.0	9.3	14.8	8.9	9.7	14.7	9.9	10.1	12.9	8.1	7.5	7.4	7.2
Barbour	11 990	12 220	12 300	12 320	12 480	12 740	12 340	12 200	11 930	11 950	12 450	12 190	12 280	12 090	12 210
	13.1	10.1	10.7	9.7	10.9	12.7	10.7	12.4	13.2	12.3	16.2	10.1	11.0	10.4	10.8
Bibb	5 960	6 240	6 320	6 360	6 110	6 250	6 300	6 210	6 210	6 190	6 160	6 170	6 280	6 300	6 230
	19.5	16.6	14.5	16.7	14.3	13.0	15.6	19.4	19.9	16.6	12.9	11.7	10.9	10.3	13.3
Blount	16 860	16 760	16 990	16 450	16 520	16 840	16 690	16 990	17 070	16 620	16 570	16 640	16 720	16 450	16 500
	15.0	11.0	11.1	8.8	9.1	9.3	10.4	11.8	12.3	9.6	8.6	7.4	8.1	7.1	6.7
Bullock	4 460	4 520	4 580	4 670	4 730	4 980	4 730	4 500	4 300	4 350	4 410	4 490	4 640	4 630	4 570
	17.2	14.9	17.1	16.9	14.4	16.0	14.8	17.6	16.8	15.4	13.3	12.6	14.9	13.5	15.6
Butler	9 790	9 800	9 920	9 870	10 000	10 190	9 710	9 650	9 560	9 560	9 660	9 550	9 610	9 700	9 610
	17.4	13.8	15.1	14.4	13.1	13.4	13.2	13.1	13.1	13.9	16.7	11.8	11.7	13.9	12.7
Calhoun	46 220	47 700	48 570	48 190	47 840	48 210	48 110	48 020	47 960	48 150	47 830	47 930	47 910	48 230	48 350
	13.1	11.1	13.7	11.7	10.5	11.2	11.5	11.2	11.4	11.7	10.9	9.3	10.2	10.4	10.2
Chambers	16 750	16 500	16 870	16 570	16 380	16 200	15 900	15 960	16 050	16 340	16 240	16 570	16 160	16 340	16 260
	9.8	9.3	11.6	9.7	9.0	8.9	8.3	8.4	9.2	11.6	11.4	9.6	9.1	10.7	11.1
Cherokee	11 500	11 670	11 580	12 090	12 320	12 290	11 620	11 080	11 090	11 090	11 010	11 150	11 300	11 020	11 300
	15.2	14.0	18.7	8.7	8.3	16.1	15.6	15.5	16.7	16.6	17.1	12.6	11.2	10.4	9.9
Chilton	15 530	16 160	16 020	16 070	15 950	16 030	15 980	15 520	15 840	15 780	15 730	16 040	15 900	16 810	15 560
	13.1	11.3	11.8	11.7	10.4	11.3	13.1	12.8	14.4	13.3	12.2	11.4	9.7	9.2	9.0
Choctaw	5 510	5 780	5 810	5 730	6 050	5 850	5 820	5 900	5 780	5 870	6 060	5 980	5 840	5 840	5 790
	15.1	16.3	18.4	14.4	20.4	18.6	15.1	22.9	16.0	16.2	23.2	13.8	16.4	16.1	17.9
Clarke	10 750	10 630	10 680	10 600	10 610	10 400	10 540	10 550	10 420	10 560	10 370	10 240	10 180	10 320	10 360
	16.2	14.3	15.0	13.1	14.8	12.9	14.0	16.7	11.9	12.8	16.5	9.9	9.0	10.7	11.1
Clay	7 360	7 580	7 560	7 540	7 540	7 670	7 610	7 580	7 530	7 360	7 680	7 270	7 600	7 370	7 450
	14.0	10.9	12.0	11.7	10.1	8.6	9.7	12.8	10.0	10.8	13.9	9.8	11.0	13.1	12.3
Cleburne	5 180	5 250	5 490	5 170	5 240	5 110	5 320	5 310¹	5 340	5 360	5 440	5 530	5 340	5 330	5 410
	12.5	10.2	14.2	10.0	8.1	8.2	11.7	12.0	11.6	12.7	15.4	12.1	9.4	8.9	10.1
Coffee	19 830	20 210	20 450	20 350	20 410	20 900	20 250	19 890	19 730	19 930	20 140	20 270	20 180	19 890	19 900
	10.9	8.4	8.1	7.9	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.3	7.7	7.8	8.2	6.5	6.1	6.1	6.1
Colbert	23 700	23 920	24 200	24 120	24 080	23 810	23 920	23 880	23 760	24 250	23 940	24 000	23 790	23 540	23 150
	18.7	16.4	16.7	15.4	15.2	14.7	15.5	16.6	16.8	18.0	16.3	14.6	14.4	14.0	13.4
Conecuh	6 970	7 210	7 170	7 060	7 680	7 420	7 350	7 650	7 280	7 290	7 580	7 340	7 310	7 220	7 220
	12.7	11.6	11.0	9.6	14.7	10.5	10.8	15.3	11.2	10.3	13.9	9.6	9.4	9.9	9.1
Coosa	5 490	5 600	5 540	5 620	5 770	5 710	5 700	5 690	5 830	5 670	5 820	5 770	5 850	5 840	5 900
	10.3	8.0	8.1	8.6	9.1	7.2	8.0	8.1	10.4	9.4	8.7	6.5	5.8	6.8	6.7
Covington	16 350	16 370	16 390	16 410	16 250	16 120	16 090	16 360	17 040	16 680	16 440	16 380	16 560	16 120	15 980
	12.2	9.3	10.6	9.4	8.0	8.9	8.6	10.8	15.1	12.6	13.3	10.1	11.8	10.6	9.6
Crenshaw	7 210	7 460	7 390	7 510	7 950	7 640	7 440	7 340	6 990	7 060	7 330	7 330	7 050	7 160	7 090
	12.1	11.0	10.3	9.5	16.0	8.0	9.1	16.7	10.3	10.3	17.0	8.0	8.1	7.9	7.3
Cullman	29 580	28 550	29 670	30 220	30 070	30 600	29 960	29 470	30 020	29 690	29 500	29 120	29 970	29 190	29 260
	14.7	11.6	11.0	12.4	9.6	10.4	12.3	11.9	15.3	13.3	15.1	9.7	9.0	9.3	9.8
Dale	22 270	22 740	22 850	22 690	22 960	23 210	22 920	22 640	22 630	22 810	23 630	23 300	23 310	23 220	23 220
	9.1	7.1	8.1	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.2	6.9	6.8	7.1	10.7	6.8	6.5	6.2	7.1
Dallas	23 290	21 730	21 430	21 660	20 510	21 690	21 250	21 140	21 160	21 160	21 050	22 920	21 130	20 130	21 670
	17.6	15.1	16.3	16.9	16.0	16.1	16.0	15.8	15.4	17.1	14.2	12.8	13.5	14.1	17.6
DeKalb	29 870	30 400	32 050	31 660	31 350	31 110	30 940	30 670	30 470	30 530	30 660	30 800	30 740	30 400	31 210
	11.8	10.8	10.9	9.5	8.7	10.2	10.8	12.4	12.6	12.3	12.0	10.4	10.0	10.1	9.2
Elmore	20 620	20 770	20 890	20 910	20 940	21 020	20 910	20 610	20 960	21 170	21 270	21 110	21 670	21 530	21 290
	12.2	7.7	7.8	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.4	7.1	7.7	8.2	8.0	7.9	8.2	8.2	7.2
Escambia	17 440	18 110	18 270	18 140	18 610	18 130	18 270	18 360	18 070	17 910	17 990	18 010	17 980	17 910	17 940
	12.5	12.1	10.8	13.1	16.9	10.1	11.6	17.8	13.0	9.1	15.1	8.8	9.1	8.4	9.1
Etowah	42 290	42 610	43 080	43 190	43 200	43 020	42 690	42 670	42 270	42 210	41 870	41 990	41 600	41 660	42 130
	17.4	13.4	13.7	13.5	13.4	13.1	13.9	14.7	14.3	14.0	13.0	11.2	9.9	10.1	10.7
Fayette	10 100	10 440	10 390	10 570	10 580	10 570	10 610	10 440	10 510	10 500	10 420	10 540	10 480	10 270	10 360
	15.7	9.5	9.8	10.1	8.9	10.3	10.5	12.2	14.6	13.7	17.4	12.6	12.8	12.1	11.3
Franklin	14 110	14 430	14 340	14 300	14 520	14 610	14 550	14 480	14 420	14 580	14 280	14 290	14 390	14 310	14 010
	18.2	16.6	20.8	17.3	16.2	15.7	17.9	18.4	25.1	20.2	15.3	13.8	13.3	13.6	14.5
Geneva	11 360	11 140	12 060	11 140	11 920	12 070	11 900	11 960	11 620	11 660	12 240	12 170	11 900	11 660	11 480
	10.4	8.2	9.4	7.2	6.8	8.4	8.3	9.9	10.6	9.2	22.3	8.1	7.0	7.0	7.6
Greene	4 650	4 760	4 800	4 840	4 910	4 880	4 750	4 740	4 660	4 780	4 780	4 660	4 650	4 610	4 630
	16.6	17.1	15.7	15.8	16.3	17.0	17.4	20.8	20.2	21.9	21.6	16.1	15.1	16.4	15.8
Hale	5 340	5 480	5 630	5 480	5 580	5 590	5 490	5 480	5 290	5 320	5 340	5 340	5 440	5 290	5 340
	16.5	17.1	20.6	17.3	16.7	14.8	16.3	19.1	16.9	16.7	15.7	12.9	13.2	14.1	14.7
Henry	7 240	7 290	7 250	7 320	7 580	7 250	7 480	7 150	7 090	7 160	7 390	7 520	7 540	7 200	7 290
	11.2	9.3	10.4	9.7	9.6	9.0	10.2	10.2	13.4	13.2	14.0	11.2	9.6	9.2	11.3
Houston	35 860	36 540	36 930	36 460	36 660	37 340	37 050	36 620	36 730	36 900	36 840	37 280	37 200	37 400	37 250
	11.3	9.0	10.5	8.5	8.5	8.8	9.1	9.8	9.1	9.1	9.1	7.7	7.2	7.4	8.2
Jackson	20 680	19 790	20 260	19 550	19 420	19 710	19 840	19 640	19 240	19 350	19 520	19 730	19 400	19 150	19 080
	22.1	16.8	21.3	15.4	14.0	14.1	14.7	19.3	14.8	15.2	15.1	14.1	12.1	11.8	12.4
Jefferson	302 570	303 510	308 440	305 990	304 420	304 320	300 770	301 180	300 140	301 670	301 150	304 610	303 290	302 140	301 490
	13.1	9.6	10.1	9.6	9.5	9.5	8.8	8.8	8.6	8.6	7.8	7.2	7.1	7.4	7.4
Lamar	8 860	9 340	9 290	9 320	9 410	9 480	9 530	9 460	9 520	9 520	9 600	9 680	9 610	9 770	9 650
	9.7	7.1	8.8	7.4	7.0	6.5	7.2	7.1	8.0	8.7	8.8	7.3	6.7	7.4	9.2
Lauderdale	35 130	35 600	36 170	36 140	35 930	35 880	35 660	35 060	35 300	34 980	34 750	34 730	34 510	34 680	34 910
	16.6	14.4	15.5	14.4	14.9	14.2	14.0	13.8	15.1	13.8	12.5	10.6	10.5	11.3	12.9
Lawrence	14 340	13 450	13 510	13 400	13 390	13 470	13 330	13 010	13 230	13 220	13 030	13 200	13 190	13 140	13 110
	18.8	15.1	15.2	13.7	13.5	13.0	14.6	14.8	15.3	15.3	12.1	11.5	11.6	11.8	11.7
Lee	35 870	38 470	38 290	38 310	37 820	38 820	39 080	38 550	39 030	38 190	39 130	39 170	39 280	39 210	38 160
	8.4	6.5	7.4	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.1	5.7	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.6	6.0	9.4	8.4
Limestone	19 310	20 230	20 060	20 130	20 650	21 100	20 830	20 740	20 810	21 160	21 340	21 860	22 160	21 960	22 060
	14.1	10.9	11.4	11.0	10.0	9.6	9.2	10.4	10.6	11.4	9.5	7.9	8.6	8.8	9.6
Lowndes	5 190	5 080	5 110	5 150	5 160	5 150	5 190	5 070	4 890	4 920	4 950	5 030	5 040	4 990	5 250
	17.9	18.3	20.4	19.9	18.9	17.1	16.4	16.7	16.9	17.5	16.4	16.0	14.7	16.5	14.3
Macon	7 950	8 150	8 360	8 310	8 070	8 540	8 300	8 210	8 220	8 340	8 380	8 470	8 560	8 410	8 340
	13.6	11.1	13.8	13.6	11.6	10.6	9.5	9.4	10.3	10.2	9.3	8.8	9.6	11.9	11.1
Madison	109 350	117 780	118 900	119 890	119 640	121 170	120 430	120 830	122 530	121 450	121 250	122 770	122 590	123 540	123 080
	8.5	7.1	7.3	6.6	6.3	6.8	6.3	6.7	7.9	6.6	6.0	5.8	5.6	6.2	5.9
Marengo	9 800	9 720	10 000	9 760	10 250	9 960	9 720	9 930	9 530	9 520	9 830	9 520	9 560	9 480	9 590
	15.5	14.2	15.7	12.3	20.0	13.9	12.3	16.8	13.3	14.4	19.1	11.2	10.3	9.7	12.6
Marion	13 700	13 580	13 810	13 680	13 530	13 710	13 620	13 750	14 000	13 610	13 440	13 450	13 190	13 300	13 530
	19.4	14.9	13.4	14.7	14.0	15.4	16.5	19.6	21.6	17.9	17.2	16.4	14.2	13.9	15.7
Marshall	31 080	33 050	33 720	33 060	33 120	33 390	32 900	33 560	33 140	32 930	32 690	32 970	32 810	32 800	33 150
	14.4	12.6	16.1	11.3	10.8	10.7	10.8	17.9	14.3	12.3	10.5	9.1	8.7	8.9	11.4
Mobile	162 590	164 730	167 720	167 210	164 480	166 680	165 400	164 050	164 810	164 440	164 180	166 910	165 310	167 320	167 650
	15.9	12.6	12.6	12.7	11.8	11.9	11.6	11.6	11.7	11.0	10.4	9.8	9.2	10.1	9.8

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1984						1985						
	1983	1984	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT—CONT.															
County data (civilian labor force and unemployment rate) —continued															
Monroe	10 670	11 140	10 900	10 950	12 520	11 050	11 170	11 940	10 790	10 730	11 160	10 810	10 710	10 700	10 670
	12.6	16.2	12.5	11.9	32.7	13.2	14.4	21.2	13.9	12.8	29.3	11.0	10.1	11.4	10.6
Montgomery	92 960	96 610	97 650	97 560	97 000	98 200	97 130	96 920	97 010	96 860	97 080	97 820	98 180	98 620	97 790
	10.5	8.8	9.3	8.7	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.8	8.3	7.7	7.7	6.9	6.9	7.8	7.1
Morgan	37 910	38 870	39 680	39 200	39 070	38 860	38 390	38 300	38 560	38 510	38 350	38 890	38 660	39 060	39 030
	14.5	11.5	11.9	11.0	11.2	10.9	10.8	10.6	11.7	11.1	9.4	8.9	8.1	9.1	8.9
Perry	5 850	5 820	5 890	5 970	5 990	6 080	6 130	6 010	5 900	5 780	5 800	5 920	5 970	5 900	6 040
	14.8	13.0	12.1	11.8	10.8	10.0	16.4	21.2	16.6	11.9	11.7	10.6	10.3	10.9	11.0
Pickens	7 500	7 080	7 170	7 140	7 030	7 070	7 000	6 930	6 960	7 110	7 080	7 130	7 210	7 160	7 290
	18.0	15.9	16.3	15.9	13.8	13.8	16.7	16.9	17.0	18.4	15.4	15.4	16.1	14.7	16.4
Pike	13 680	13 560	13 440	13 680	13 470	14 570	13 800	13 060	13 770	13 820	14 000	14 310	14 840	13 700	13 630
	13.7	10.1	10.4	10.2	10.1	8.7	8.7	16.7	8.7	8.2	8.6	7.8	6.9	7.1	7.2
Randolph	9 060	8 790	9 160	8 770	8 520	8 930	8 790	8 390	8 690	8 830	8 670	8 740	8 790	8 450	8 740
	17.9	14.9	22.2	17.0	15.7	14.1	12.0	16.7	13.8	16.1	10.7	10.0	9.4	8.9	13.3
Russell	18 120	19 290	19 650	19 310	19 040	19 190	20 070	19 460	19 960	19 140	19 220	19 470	19 440	19 790	20 670
	13.7	12.9	13.4	10.9	10.8	11.1	14.7	12.3	14.7	12.4	12.1	11.6	11.6	13.0	17.0
St. Clair	19 240	19 400	19 350	19 370	19 750	19 460	19 670	19 910	20 100	20 030	19 750	19 460	19 200	19 130	19 120
	14.2	11.5	10.1	10.6	12.9	10.9	12.5	13.4	14.3	13.6	11.7	8.9	7.9	8.0	7.3
Shelby	31 800	31 910	32 640	32 170	31 760	31 990	31 940	31 650	31 640	31 630	32 180	32 280	32 010	31 850	32 100
	12.1	10.3	11.2	10.3	9.3	9.7	10.2	9.2	9.3	9.4	9.5	8.4	7.9	7.9	7.8
Sumter	6 920	7 290	7 220	7 070	7 270	7 470	7 180	7 020	7 160	7 090	7 020	7 110	7 040	7 030	7 030
	14.9	11.5	13.1	12.7	16.7	15.1	11.5	13.1	13.5	12.7	14.0	11.7	11.4	14.9	13.4
Talladega	31 560	31 150	31 290	31 530	32 230	30 790	31 360	31 140	31 200	31 500	31 070	30 900	30 640	30 530	30 470
	17.2	15.8	15.5	16.7	20.8	14.7	16.9	16.9	16.3	14.9	14.6	13.9	13.2	14.0	14.7
Tallapoosa	16 800	17 380	17 780	17 810	17 290	17 290	17 160	17 070	17 120	17 090	17 080	17 170	17 100	17 410	17 520
	12.1	9.4	10.0	10.4	9.1	9.2	9.4	9.6	11.4	10.6	11.9	9.2	7.7	8.9	9.4
Tuscaloosa	56 310	58 150	57 550	58 040	58 450	58 940	58 770	58 670	57 840	58 050	58 900	59 340	59 200	57 890	58 780
	12.4	9.1	9.8	9.8	9.7	9.1	9.0	9.1	9.1	9.1	8.7	7.3	7.9	7.9	7.8
Walker	32 490	32 560	32 450	32 240	32 110	32 340	33 040	33 830	33 630	33 340	33 340	33 270	32 000	31 750	31 830
	16.1	11.3	11.9	11.6	11.1	12.6	14.4	16.3	15.9	14.9	14.1	12.4	9.2	9.0	8.7
Washington	6 390	6 400	6 420	6 410	6 730	6 670	6 450	6 380	6 280	6 160	6 270	6 090	6 160	6 220	6 340
	21.0	18.1	21.5	18.2	20.8	18.8	16.9	19.4	17.8	16.9	17.0	13.0	13.3	13.3	17.2
Wilcox	5 470	5 480	5 680	5 420	5 530	5 540	5 370	5 190	5 070	5 470	5 210	5 280	5 370	5 160	5 280
	20.2	15.3	16.7	15.3	14.7	14.2	13.1	13.3	12.4	22.8	14.7	13.1	12.3	11.3	16.6
Winston	9 630	9 260	9 080	9 060	9 060	9 460	9 370	9 530	9 420	9 340	9 040	8 980	8 850	9 030	8 930
	19.7	19.6	17.4	17.5	17.1	20.5	21.1	24.4	25.6	23.4	19.3	16.7	15.0	17.5	17.9
TRADE															
Foreign, through Port of Mobile															
Imports															
Value ($1,000)	643 162	726 382	60 034	54 364	68 859	64 090	41 930	62 621	64 445	72 680	79 539	74 582	74 943		
Shipping weight (1,000,000 lbs.)	3 398	9 484	988	1 019	1 032	971	477	1 282	1 044	1 029	891	1 462	1 067		
Exports															
Value ($1,000)	788 611	622 949	31 908	44 217	42 109	62 763	80 528	65 598	49 759	38 630	61 395	38 581	53 270		
Shipping weight (1,000,000 lbs.)	9 496	21 911	1 292	2 291	1 719	2 763	1 892	1 739	2 201	2 098	2 361	1 891	1 574		
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile (1,000 tons)	34 916	38 790	3 307	3 548	3 362	3 445	3 124	3 262	3 151	3 083	3 028	3 062	3 279	3 479	3 224
Domestic															
Electric energy consumption (non-industrial purposes) (1,000,000 kwh)	23 017	24 285	2 445	2 384	2 339	1 861	1 785	1 911	2 108	2 400	1 733	1 617	1 733	2 243	2 427
Gasoline sales (1,000 gallons)	1 861 406	1 906 247	163 796	168 845	150 779	161 962	157 127	158 793	156 773	133 925	158 021	160 821	166 534	151 621	
New passenger car registrations (number)	122 393	141 996	12 806	12 579	10 981	11 452	11 547	11 757	10 746	10 400	12 107	12 520	13 393	13 712	13 465
Taxable retail sales by kind of business, state totals ($1,000,000)															
Food		3 649	311	309	310	304	304	328	309	292	316	308	313	297	307
General stores with food and gas		175	15	15	15	15	14	15	14	13	16	16	18	17	16
General merchandise		2 362	176	190	151	185	238	316	161	150	196	212	213	205	192
Apparel		566	41	48	45	46	52	77	38	36	52	51	48	45	42
Furniture, furnishings, etc.		544	47	46	43	46	49	56	44	39	49	44	49	47	45
Automotive		3 085	269	281	243	256	245	241	234	245	299	290	320	309	291
Gasoline service stations		298	26	26	24	26	23	25	24	22	25	26	29	28	29
Lumber and building materials		890	79	80	79	81	76	66	59	54	76	86	90	92	90
Hardware and farm implements		427	38	38	37	37	35	31	29	28	38	41	45	37	36
Eating places		1 292	112	117	110	109	107	119	99	96	119	114	125	121	121
Drug stores		264	19	21	20	20	21	29	26	22	20	21	24	21	20
All other retail		2 161	169	185	177	182	190	245	176	156	184	184	196	186	173
Total sales by retail concerns		15 733	1 302	1 357	1 286	1 308	1 355	1 587	1 210	1 150	1 395	1 398	1 468	1 403	1 363
Nonretail and unclassified concerns		2 617	219	228	230	225	213	240	180	173	209	226	235	226	229
Total all sales at retail		18 350	1 520	1 585	1 516	1 533	1 568	1 827	1 390	1 323	1 604	1 624	1 703	1 629	1 592
Taxable retail sales, Metropolitan Statistical Areas and counties ($1,000)															
MSAs															
Anniston		507 834	41 935	42 710	41 655	43 342	43 909	50 029	37 407	36 090	43 347	45 059	47 483	45 405	42 313
Birmingham		5 034 519	416 066	441 565	424 887	418 512	425 142	490 571	387 132	370 971	447 183	449 655	472 618	452 834	435 347
Dothan		643 436	53 806	54 948	50 937	54 591	54 315	63 771	48 054	47 755	55 056	56 051	59 546	55 509	55 103
Florence		612 888	51 052	52 215	49 323	51 908	52 850	64 698	43 838	40 904	52 436	54 639	55 381	51 131	52 853
Gadsden		459 926	42 081	41 122	37 135	38 511	37 163	44 631	33 381	31 453	38 726	39 657	42 826	41 684	40 180
Huntsville		1 049 543	86 605	89 933	84 850	87 099	92 205	106 884	78 971	76 389	92 107	96 323	100 559	91 617	94 342
Mobile		2 098 840	179 509	184 252	168 742	172 233	174 689	203 253	157 957	149 260	179 257	183 116	191 362	178 828	182 960
Montgomery		1 429 862	119 652	122 078	117 390	116 468	124 795	146 157	108 026	105 854	125 677	123 877	130 665	130 596	126 348
Tuscaloosa		631 384	51 062	55 374	53 491	53 217	53 091	64 765	47 112	47 132	55 383	55 540	58 480	54 494	53 509
Counties															
Autauga		96 686	8 424	8 224	8 064	7 968	8 245	9 252	7 467	7 890	8 859	9 043	9 445	8 765	9 046
Baldwin		341 754	31 163	31 427	28 090	28 123	27 843	30 591	24 774	24 571	30 464	31 613	33 077	31 616	33 529
Barbour		71 583	6 188	6 669	5 584	6 080	6 162	6 858	5 601	5 227	6 251	6 308	6 396	6 157	6 142
Bibb		41 387	3 266	3 621	3 270	3 500	3 782	4 200	2 991	3 046	3 498	3 595	3 807	3 750	3 486
Blount		89 053	7 472	8 248	7 349	7 952	7 453	8 581	6 934	6 793	8 052	8 184	9 001	8 787	8 135
Bullock		25 653	2 014	2 106	2 178	1 851	2 119	2 892	2 142	2 085	2 097	2 020	2 060	2 074	1 905
Butler		65 569	5 667	5 679	5 723	5 146	5 515	5 858	5 090	4 607	5 466	5 237	5 623	5 167	5 116
Calhoun		507 834	41 935	42 710	41 655	43 342	43 909	50 029	37 407	36 090	43 347	45 059	47 483	45 405	42 313
Chambers		107 006	8 913	8 922	8 447	9 082	9 187	9 895	8 248	7 542	9 067	8 947	9 689	8 487	10 805
Cherokee		47 898	3 861	4 172	3 757	4 016	3 799	4 400	3 756	3 416	4 116	4 645	4 445	4 013	4 574
Chilton		99 860	8 029	8 510	8 074	8 747	8 821	10 204	7 552	7 861	9 409	9 373	9 820	9 091	8 822
Choctaw		36 636	3 098	3 197	2 845	2 916	3 086	3 566	3 112	2 758	3 131	3 085	2 991	3 206	2 913
Clarke		98 648	7 671	8 821	8 257	8 669	8 799	10 075	7 889	7 378	8 771	8 987	9 399	8 524	8 785
Clay		26 368	2 172	2 267	2 194	2 172	2 231	2 529	2 010	1 939	2 135	2 255	2 512	2 419	2 184
Cleburne		22 198	2 094	1 897	1 756	1 878	1 711	1 691	1 596	1 377	1 925	2 297	2 126	2 555	2 156
Coffee		185 557	14 953	15 276	14 579	14 317	14 961	17 770	13 736	13 685	15 555	16 327	16 391	15 569	16 257

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1984						1985						
	1983	1984	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
TRADE—CONTINUED															
Taxable retail sales: MSAs and counties—continued															
Counties—continued															
Colbert		249,927	21,118	21,620	20,081	20,961	20,491	23,849	17,395	17,171	21,202	21,946	21,035	20,594	20,880
Conecuh		37,533	2,977	2,573	4,121	2,422	2,973	3,603	2,746	2,582	1,291	2,992	3,232	3,007	2,477
Coosa		8,926	760	826	813	842	828	899	764	770	807	796	822	888	834
Covington		136,950	11,258	12,007	11,062	11,338	10,909	13,089	9,838	9,774	11,404	11,658	12,349	11,723	11,929
Crenshaw		30,737	2,466	2,348	2,179	2,666	3,071	3,149	2,541	2,513	2,983	3,002	2,906	3,257	3,107
Cullman		237,609	20,016	19,896	19,142	21,056	20,370	24,432	16,823	16,247	21,592	21,921	20,660	20,194	21,034
Dale		104,914	8,946	8,614	8,908	9,259	9,026	10,888	7,839	8,086	4,746	9,652	9,991	9,148	9,611
Dallas		199,170	16,277	16,488	16,192	17,141	17,232	19,682	15,405	14,212	16,871	17,661	16,048	17,082	17,221
DeKalb		180,383	14,959	15,493	14,942	15,254	15,829	17,567	12,341	11,474	15,327	15,428	15,921	17,140	15,019
Elmore		102,062	8,024	9,008	8,784	8,153	8,366	9,851	7,632	7,965	9,305	9,465	9,407	9,436	9,520
Escambia		141,758	11,361	11,102	11,279	12,263	11,884	14,710	10,567	10,415	11,979	12,679	13,060	12,764	11,403
Etowah		459,906	42,001	41,122	37,135	38,531	37,169	44,601	33,381	31,451	38,726	39,657	42,809	41,684	40,160
Fayette		64,918	4,967	5,280	5,732	5,116	5,081	6,390	4,372	4,575	5,231	5,292	5,347	5,864	4,908
Franklin		94,527	8,147	8,500	8,174	8,023	8,785	9,190	7,813	7,156	13,250	8,469	8,614	8,679	7,114
Geneva		144,928	11,617	11,908	11,847	11,669	12,646	13,673	11,377	11,273	12,075	12,228	12,676	12,480	12,303
Greene[2]		18,310	2,062	1,611	1,388	1,509	1,199	1,481	1,232	1,117	1,347	1,357	1,848	1,412	1,417
Hale		31,290	2,526	2,780	2,601	2,522	2,610	2,713	2,497	2,198	2,492	2,723	3,025	2,746	2,677
Henry		35,727	2,951	2,999	3,260	2,790	3,225	3,684	3,300	2,851	3,001	3,222	[illegible]	3,147	3,066
Houston		539,022	44,880	46,114	42,329	45,832	45,289	53,083	40,215	39,659	45,315	46,194	49,035	45,761	46,968
Jackson		136,606	11,203	12,671	11,321	12,108	12,178	13,532	10,299	10,326	12,760	12,594	13,317	11,977	11,535
Jefferson		4,279,774	352,302	374,682	362,309	355,335	361,402	420,807	326,894	315,212	378,332	379,502	396,429	374,950	366,310
Lamar		37,982	3,128	3,078	2,965	2,959	3,154	3,282	2,802	2,453	3,253	3,206	3,293	3,658	3,116
Lauderdale		362,961	29,514	30,196	29,242	30,947	32,369	40,849	26,443	23,733	31,234	32,493	33,575	31,962	31,473
Lawrence		51,749	4,109	4,433	4,239	4,404	4,546	5,267	3,842	3,745	4,567	4,480	4,089	4,556	4,013
Lee		346,617	29,067	29,073	28,613	29,365	30,676	34,909	21,244	24,105	24,442	30,491	32,235	29,759	29,084
Limestone		161,476	13,127	12,888	13,414	13,503	13,969	15,610	12,216	12,240	14,779	15,065	15,650	13,428	13,926
Lowndes		16,661	1,036	1,368	1,372	1,432	1,411	1,771	1,428	1,571	1,798	1,609	1,804	1,946	1,773
Macon		45,117	3,770	4,291	4,097	3,887	3,644	3,967	1,693	2,941	3,449	3,612	3,674	5,172	3,651
Madison		1,049,143	96,605	89,903	84,810	87,099	92,370	108,484	78,971	76,389	92,101	96,303	100,194	91,617	94,342
Marengo		69,382	5,470	5,447	5,480	5,903	6,441	7,229	6,107	5,512	6,258	6,513	6,273	6,984	7,121
Marion		90,311	7,814	7,998	7,852	7,600	8,331	10,053	7,627	6,419	8,433	8,608	9,297	8,941	8,475
Marshall		319,612	27,280	29,607	26,249	28,412	29,520	33,451	25,119	24,443	31,299	32,912	33,646	30,628	31,764
Mobile		1,757,086	149,348	152,825	140,652	144,198	146,848	172,662	133,193	124,669	148,793	141,503	158,260	140,212	149,411
Monroe		102,728	8,721	9,954	9,190	8,969	11,484	10,934	8,091	8,004	9,260	7,880	8,388	8,436	7,918
Montgomery		1,231,114	102,604	104,846	100,942	100,947	108,184	127,054	92,887	90,099	107,513	105,304	111,802	112,388	108,177
Morgan		452,378	36,426	38,761	38,015	38,353	39,930	41,175	32,642	31,938	40,760	43,717	41,806	41,560	42,929
Perry		25,163	2,086	2,314	2,378	2,145	1,998	2,163	1,763	1,785	2,099	2,093	2,100	2,073	1,970
Pickens		41,346	3,451	3,567	3,319	3,596	3,300	3,717	2,706	2,963	3,499	3,672	3,969	3,482	3,598
Pike		90,744	7,106	7,896	7,633	8,022	7,769	9,032	7,297	6,616	7,728	7,664	8,724	8,069	7,357
Randolph		57,911	4,674	4,448	4,674	4,794	5,157	5,354	5,343	4,466	4,942	4,769	4,775	4,826	3,962
Russell		121,302	10,519	10,776	10,004	10,307	10,109	11,825	9,101	8,699	10,237	11,348	11,237	10,351	9,945
St. Clair		120,991	10,100	10,241	10,194	10,928	9,511	10,821	9,036	9,344	11,656	11,842	12,860	12,948	11,312
Shelby		253,358	21,964	22,310	20,985	21,259	20,998	21,848	21,142	18,073	23,012	22,979	24,916	23,748	22,883
Sumter		30,987	2,534	2,159	2,434	2,610	2,890	3,107	2,488	2,258	2,988	2,706	2,604	2,520	2,279
Talladega		240,116	20,639	19,749	18,619	19,191	20,116	23,681	19,172	17,340	20,426	21,394	24,919	21,441	22,379
Tallapoosa		127,480	10,720	10,388	9,840	10,119	10,787	11,807	9,525	8,756	11,597	11,149	12,474	12,080	10,719
Tuscaloosa		631,964	51,062	45,374	53,491	53,217	53,391	64,785	47,112	47,132	55,383	55,547	56,440	54,494	53,504
Walker		291,343	24,529	25,164	24,050	24,608	25,774	28,514	23,126	21,547	26,069	27,149	29,992	28,003	26,668
Washington		21,464	1,699	2,022	1,741	1,888	1,630	1,786	1,498	1,567	1,697	1,740	1,979	1,645	1,906
Wilcox		27,999	2,356	2,313	2,227	2,290	2,184	2,605	2,116	2,046	2,220	2,136	2,240	2,020	1,952
Winston		71,301	5,737	6,074	5,996	5,959	5,934	6,891	5,535	5,127	6,757	6,461	6,996	6,789	6,127
Statewide		973,679	76,393	82,147	83,111	86,149	88,089	107,024	79,878	65,053	83,489	81,401	85,362	80,513	83,288
BUILDING PERMITS															
Alabama															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	1,079,085	1,258,032	99,776	147,117	90,497	84,514	95,153	105,139	62,041	65,750	123,177	106,771	116,175	94,368	108,430
Residential	449,681	439,383	36,909	42,389	43,332	36,366	36,652	25,424	25,969	28,712	45,247	52,109	55,647	42,196	40,214
Nonresidential	366,127	586,743	44,597	79,263	27,171	29,249	36,821	66,040	21,090	29,497	60,364	41,660	45,334	37,414	49,934
In selected cities															
Anniston															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	6,846	6,869	500	744	484	737	609	613	109	520	426	444	158	763	678
Residential	3,193	3,030	322	317	248	256	251	264	288	272	384	329	100	331	299
Nonresidential	932	1,213	104	90	90	95	93	75	111	73	96	110	104	85	104
Birmingham															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	213,343	104,141	4,169	14,214	10,009	5,797	12,343	13,105	5,535	11,188	14,536	10,021	33,775	8,956	14,621
Residential	31,901	15,598	761	1,285	1,271	1,076	963	802	772	1,241	1,301	3,615	6,601	4,865	2,706
Nonresidential	108,370	25,726	2,369	1,967	3,606	4,675	1,568	3,114	2,357	2,717	8,497	8,406	21,476	4,097	8,118
Decatur															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	14,095	19,028	1,909	2,179	1,767	1,920	1,729	1,476	1,444	1,133	1,939	2,061	1,895	1,621	2,259
Residential	1,340	11,596	1,080	1,357	1,053	1,142	1,052	697	614	570	1,138	1,189	906	700	992
Nonresidential	2,116	2,744	335	429	318	347	294	249	283	226	398	402	760	480	513
Dothan															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	18,043	17,520	901	1,699	1,344	1,857	3,461	1,458	967	586	832	2,986	1,484	8,242	2,347
Residential	7,760	6,718	182	226	370	670	1,405	203	324	432	399	556	703	364	644
Nonresidential	6,339	5,478	125	641	666	960	680	483	58	116	46	2,098	597	1,714	1,562
Gadsden															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	13,596	9,310	166	260	886	2,546	1,057	215	123	288	964	241	834	729	729
Residential	2,006	2,129	26	74	46	30	125		56	103	462		126	303	12
Nonresidential	3,912	5,826	101	143	813	2,331	894	186	40	141	474	144	50	290	58
Huntsville															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	122,759	147,927	14,007	14,163	6,626	8,187	13,808	19,407	6,178	6,268	24,795	15,973	13,031	7,737	20,212
Residential	51,350	55,064	3,331	6,078	2,825	2,982	8,817	1,593	2,863	1,440	3,194	2,683	5,377	2,233	3,555
Nonresidential	45,128	73,370	9,394	6,045	3,339	3,835	3,266	15,945	2,568	2,755	18,064	11,107	5,444	3,647	14,893
Mobile															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	109,508	254,605	6,707	4,020	6,484	10,322	10,320	31,156	7,730	4,770	6,893	5,991	8,130	7,774	6,815
Residential	38,261	26,314	3,208	1,071	1,201	2,636	1,673	1,065	1,478	1,738	1,234	1,372	2,927	1,619	1,212
Nonresidential	49,663	197,690	2,127	1,153	3,886	2,288	7,264	28,688	5,120	2,165	4,458	3,185	2,775	4,835	4,213

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1984						1985						
	1983	1984	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
BUILDING ACTIVITY—CONTINUED															
Montgomery															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	76,984	94,862	8,192	8,070	7,254	8,188	11,037	6,049	6,554	6,027	9,624	9,126	8,163	7,901	9,350
Residential	32,619	35,697	3,504	3,361	2,901	3,262	5,963	2,557	2,140	3,036	3,836	4,096	4,356	4,009	3,663
Nonresidential	28,264	46,198	3,719	3,896	3,407	4,000	5,193	2,843	3,750	2,321	3,960	4,060	3,001	3,054	4,567
Quad Cities															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	12,979	39,267	2,227	1,994	2,246	1,917	806	12,947	491	592	1,416	2,138	1,707	2,024	1,339
Residential	6,391	7,172	403	721	503	438	381	126	351	177	704	696	328	576	192
Nonresidential	3,506	23,675	1,268	160	196	323	178	12,150	46	51	379	442	968	410	186
Selma															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	4,197	1,092	394	184	819	192	309	312	92	109	164	73	237	69	
Residential	357	843	148	73		76	35		136	109	184	73	237	69	
Nonresidential	798	1,908	7		617	4	188	367							
Tuscaloosa															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Reported value	22,139	34,319	1,319	2,885	2,460	2,225	2,513	3,739	1,420	7,960	3,678	8,475	5,621	1,164	5,190
Residential	14,949	18,717	737	1,634	1,350	789	1,208	1,258	699	4,109	2,792	6,726	4,987	1,005	2,207
Nonresidential	6,227	15,207	635	965	552	1,141	164	2,024	100	2,007	391	679	2,596	462	324

NOTE: Throughout this table, details do not necessarily add to totals due to rounding. Estimated total for calendar month based on adjustment of weekly data.

Individual months may not add to annual totals due to late revisions in annual data.

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End-of-month balance.

Beginning January 1978, the Consumer Price Index consists of "All Urban Consumers." Prior to that date, it included only "Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers." Historical data will not be available due to the change in coverage. No "Energy" data are available prior to 1978, and "Housing" data prior to January 1978 are not comparable to the new "Housing" series due to a change in definition.

These data were previously presented as the "Wholesale Price Index." The new title more accurately reflects the coverage of the data.

Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. All monthly data are adjusted to a March benchmark of the previous year.

Includes both inbound and outbound shipments by water moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations.

Gross gallons of gasoline as reported by wholesale distributors.

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Retail sales data represent sales at retail **which are subject to sales tax** as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include taxable sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the Census of Retail Trade. **Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. Sales figure for the two latest months are normally low because they do not yet include data from late reporters. Retail sales historical data prior to 1984 are not available for the new series. The "Statewide" category in the "County" section provides sales figures which are not attributable to individual counties; it does not represent a state total.**

Represents permits issued by selected permit-issuing places. Private construction only. May be partially estimated by the Bureau of the Census. "Reported value" includes additions and alterations and is not a sum of residential and nonresidential.

Quad-Cities and consists of Florence, Muscle Shoals, Sheffield, and Tuscumbia.

Alabama's Occupational Employment Outlook

Headlong growth of new technologies and national economic recessions have combined in recent years to heighten concerns about future employment opportunities in numerous blue- and white-collar occupations. For example, there seems to be a growing fear that an army of steel-collar robots will displace welders and other blue-collar workers in our traditional "smoke-stack" industries. Numerous white-collar jobs also are perceived to be in jeopardy as word processors erase typing pool jobs and as expanding computer graphics capabilities eliminate the need for drafters.

Fear of job loss because of structural economic change has deep historical roots. In eighteenth-century England, the Luddites smashed new textile looms that appeared to threaten their jobs. Similar fears have troubled American workers since the spread of railroads in the nineteenth century and the later proliferation of automobiles and airplanes. For some workers, such as wagonmakers and blacksmiths, job changes had to be made. Fortunately, our historical experience has been that the actual decline of wagonmaking and blacksmithing jobs was more than offset by the expansion of jobs for these workers as automobile welders and engine mechanics.

The Alabama Department of Industrial Relations has forecasted which occupations in our state will be fast growing and which will be declining. Some of the fast growing occupations for 1995 are: vocational education teachers, office machine servicers, computer systems analysts, sewing machine mechanics, and computer operators. Declining occupations include: farmers and farm workers, maids and servants, graduate assistants, and college teachers.

The composition of Alabama's work force in 1995 will be:

White-collar workers	49%
Blue-collar workers	35%
Service workers	14%
Farmers and farm workers	2%

More information can be found in the November 1984 issue of *Economic Review*, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, and *Alabama Occupational Trends for 1995*, Alabama Department of Industrial Relations, April, 1985.

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Alabama Economic Outlook: Primary Metals

Carl E. Ferguson, Jr.

The September issue of **Alabama Business** offered a brief overview of Alabama manufacturing with a focus on the nondurable goods textile industry. This month we turn our attention to durable manufacturing and primary metals in particular. As indicated earlier, the period 1979-82 was a costly one for Alabama manufacturing. *As a result of the recession, Alabama manufacturing lost 37,600 jobs between 1979 and 1982, with 29,300, or 77.7 percent in the durable good industries.* Fifty-two percent of durable manufacturing job losses with in primary metals.

Durable Manufacturing

Durable goods manufacturing industries suffered worse than nondurable industries. With 1979-83 real output down 16.6 percent and four consecutive years of employment declines resulting in a loss of nearly 30,000 jobs, the composition of durable manufacturing in Alabama has changed rather dramatically for the foreseeable future. Total output is not expected to regain 1979 levels until 1987, and employment is expected to remain below the 1979 level through 1990.

Primary Metals

This major group includes establishments engaged in the smelting and refining of metals from ore, pig, or scrap; in the rolling, drawing, and alloying of metals; in the manufacture of castings and other basic products of metals; and in the manufacture of nails, spikes, and insulated wire and cable. This group also includes the production of coke.

Many people think of the primary metals industry in Alabama as being synonymous with the steel industry, but aluminum is also important in the state's primary metals industry. In 1982 more than 9,700 people were employed in primary production of aluminum, including aluminum rolling and drawing or castings. Tuscaloosa County has a large aluminum products company, but most aluminum manufacturing in Alabama takes place in Colbert County. The large primary steel industries are in Jefferson County.

Plates, bars, sheets, and tubes of steel or aluminum are considered primary metals industry products. These products are then used by the fabricated metals industry to make such things as cans, tanks, tools, and many other kinds of equipment.

Recent trends. Vastly undercapitalized with aging plants and facilities, the decline of the steel industry has been in the making for some time. *Current estimates show a devastating drop in output of 53 percent over the ten-year period 1974-1983.* As a result, the relative importance of the primary metals industry in Alabama has fallen from 5.6 percent of real Gross State Product in 1974 to 2.1 percent in 1983. U.S. primary metals output fell by 35 percent over the same period with an associated downward shift in GNP share from 2 percent to 1 percent.

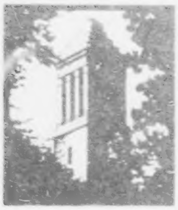
The human cost in Alabama was equally dramatic with an estimated 20,900 lost jobs. Of these, 19,000 workers were laid off over the four-year period 1979-83. Primary metals employment has been on the decline since 1974 though there was a short-lived rebound in 1977-78. The years 1982 and 1983 show an unprecedented decline for an Alabama industry with employment losses of 20.5 and 12.9 percent respectively.

While employment losses have been overwhelming, the average annual wage rate has been growing rapidly. Starting at $12,600 in 1974, the highest private sector average annual wage (second only to federal civilian), wages grew by over 10 percent a year to reach $26,800 in 1983. Only mining and paper, with average annual wages of $27,000 and $29,000, pay more.

Outlook. The forecast for the balance of the decade calls for an average annual growth rate of 3.5 percent through 1990. On a cyclical basis, retrenchments are expected in 1986 and 1990 when output is expected to decline slightly for each year. The Alabama economy is expected to grow a little more rapidly than the U.S. as a whole. National projections forecast U.S. growth to average only 3.0 percent for the period 1984-90.

Employment will climb an average of only 1.2 percent a year over the same period. *Employment is expected to climb to only 27,900 workers in 1990, only 2,100 more than 1983 and 18,800 less than the high of 46,700 in 1974.* As a consequence, primary metals' share of Alabama total employment will continue to fall from 1.6 percent in 1983 to 1.5 percent in 1990.

Wage rates are expected to continue to rise faster than labor productivity. Current forecasts project a 12.3 percent average annual increase through 1990. Such increases are based on continuing wage pressure and a willingness of industry officials to grant such raises. On the basis of these projections, primary metals will pay the highest average annual wage of any public or private sector industry.



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